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Famishing London: A Study of the Unemployed and Unemployable. By F. A. McKENZIE. London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1903. 8vo, pp. 88.

Mendians et vagabonds. Par LOUIS RIVIÈRE. Paris: Victor Lecoffre, 1902. 8vo, pp. xx + 239.

AN account of London poverty "outside the beaten track of the slummer," such as Mr. McKenzie gives in *Famishing London*, is well calculated to disturb the social philosophies of "dwellers in comfortable suburbs." It is a significant fact that almost every writer who deals with this subject feels called upon to protest that his account, however sensational, is not an exaggeration but a plain statement of fact. Several years ago Mr. George Haw wrote out the story of London "horribly-housed;" the present little volume adds one more chapter, dealing more particularly with non-employment. "The Story of an East-End Street," giving a detailed account of the condition of each family living on a certain street, is perhaps the most impressive portion of the book.

M. RIVIÈRE has prepared a careful historical and descriptive account of the phenomena of vagrancy and dependence in France and in other countries, following in each case the course of legislation—regulative, preventive and remedial—and indicating the relation of vagrancy to crime, and to other forms of indigence. The establishment of national workshops in France (1848), and of miscellaneous correctional institutions, workhouses, and labor and convict colonies in different countries, under public and under private management, is also considered at length. M. Rivière's volume is a valuable contribution to the literature of the subject.

J. C.

Die Anfänge der merkantilistischen Gewerbepolitik in Oesterreich. By MAX ADLER. Wien: Franz Deuticke, 1903. 8vo, pp. ix + 121.

THERE is not a little to learn from Adler's pamphlet concerning the intermediate stages between the exclusive regulation of labor by the guilds and its semi-free condition under the paternal supervision and protection of the state. These stages are not always particularly well understood by Americans, largely because we are likely to

think of the guilds rather as abolished by a stroke of the pen as in the case of Turgot, or utterly destroyed by a social revolution such as that of 1789. But abroad and in France as well changes of this kind, and it is safe to say of every kind, have come about very gradually, and the conservatism which seemed to *maneat abusus* rather than *usus* caused results to be achieved, even in regard to the most urgent reforms, only by very tortuous and circumstantial processes. The very slowness of growth seems quaintly illustrated in the author's own longwinded passages and his lack of systematic grouping of facts, however valuable and accurate his details. Strange to say, the imagination is singularly affected by the reading, and the petrified state of conditions, the inimitable *Zopf* of paternal government, whose chief task it was to rifle its subjects' pockets with unruffled dignity and voluble profession of goodwill, are reflected in these pages as in a mirror.

The pamphlet covers a period of some sixty years, ending with the decree of 1731. This decree, however, by no means abolished the guilds—Austria was not ready for so sweeping a measure; but the yoke of prohibitives was somewhat lessened, a uniform legislation was established by means of which masters and journeymen might come to a more definite understanding, and the door was kept ajar for the entrance of the artisan into a regular and respected profession. *Widrigenfalls* the guilds might ultimately be abolished (p. 117).

This determined attitude of the government the author explains by pointing to the fact that during the seventeenth century the question of revenue became of chief importance to all states of Europe and to Austria in particular because of the vainglorious (imperial) pretensions which she was under obligation to keep up despite her commercial and industrial decline. A contemporary accused the population of Vienna of being more eager for amusement than for work—an accusation which holds good to this day—and proposed a tightening of the reins in every direction to compel industry. But inasmuch as something more than force was needed to animate the stagnant spirit, the government itself should have turned *entrepreneur* on a large scale, or at least assisted those who would, and thus lifted the spell of indifference and sloth. The author charges Austria with having been blind to the necessity of a change until this late date when she was already outdistanced by Holland, England, and

France. Bickerings with the guilds generally consumed all the energy of the boards or minister in charge.

Meanwhile the commercial policy made France rich and influential and political complications opened the eyes of the Austrian diplomats to the necessity of industrial reform. Here, however, they were met by the guilds which had completely changed from their original object of lessening friction, to being a cause of it, the source at once of turmoil and stagnation. To meet in some way the complicated conditions which they could not master, the guilds became more and more exclusive. They sought to maintain prices at a level to suit themselves, they became family coteries which declared trades and tradespeople outside their pale "dishonest." The cudgel of religious prejudice was frequently applied, and the exiling of non-Catholics deprived Austria of skilled workmen, the lack of whom proved ever afterwards her most serious industrial difficulty. The government was anxious to enter a wedge by starting undertakings under its patronage which should at once create small expenditure and give large results. And thus we find the strange combination of the house of correction and the factory. Beggars all over the country were chased together, confined within walls that could not easily be scaled and compelled to work, the number being occasionally swelled by disobedient servants and obstreperous journeymen who were thus punished. Any person who was willing to start a factory on such a plan usually had the government's sanction. The nobility were even more advantageously situated by being able to compel their unfree population to work in the factory as another form of the customary week-work. Beggars, orphans and tramps caught and pressed into service for the mere pittance of a living supplied the numbers lacking. The breach thus effected in the régime of the guilds was further widened (1) by the change from daily wages to payment for piecework, (2) by the formation of small dealers into associations which were thus enabled to export more cheaply and in larger quantities, and finally, (3) by the laws enacted, which in a somewhat modern sense strove to increase home production by prohibiting foreign imports. The object was the usual one of keeping silver and gold within the borders. Since home production could not supply the articles demanded by the luxury of the time, the government attempted to remedy this, too, by issuing stringent laws against elaborate clothing or other ornaments. As usual the common man was cited as the one

whose extravagance in comparison with his means had caused the economic decline, a statement to which one provincial board pertinently remarked that the ones whose economic irresponsibility had caused the evil were the bankrupt nobles and the clergy to whom the tradesmen could not *ex metu reverentiae* (!) deny credit. For a government whose eloquent motto was *maneant usus et tollatur abusus*, this seemed rather a severe rebuff. But the petty tyranny and lilliputian character of a government which affected to rule an empire and yet could not exact obedience within its own immediate surroundings, is manifest in all its dealings. The blows that certain emperors from the height of their authority directed against this fabric of prejudice and class privilege seemed but isolated efforts. One can easily imagine that nothing but the effects of the Napoleonic wars could eradicate some of the evils.

The pamphlet rightly bears the name "study." While its pages may not attract the general reader, we think its detailed account will be of much interest to the specialist.

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Business Education and Accountancy. By CHARLES WALDO HASKINS. Edited by FREDERICK A. CLEVELAND. New York: Harper & Brothers, 1904. 8vo, pp. xvii + 239.

FOUR of the chapters in this book are occasional addresses which were delivered by Mr. Haskins in 1900 and 1901. Two chapters are on the history of accountancy and were written by him as the beginning of a treatise on that subject. Two others are somewhat carefully prepared essays, the immediate purpose of which is not stated. The editor contributes the introduction, and presumably also the biographical sketch of Mr. Haskins.

Here we have the story and some of the work of a pioneer—one who blazes the way for future generations to follow. At the time of his death he was still pushing eagerly forward. The literary remains here published are only fragments, and, as the editor confesses, "must necessarily lack somewhat in continuity." But having been thrown off in a work which was so recent, so new, and so full of possibilities, they make it easier for others to take up that work and carry it on. The portrait which serves as a frontispiece shows a commanding personality—a man whom we can conceive of as